

Federal Legislative Activities - Week of May 11, 2015

The House is in recess this week. Please find a listing of federal legislative activities the County and our federal advocates are monitoring during the week of May 11, 2015, below.

Congressional Hearings and Floor Activity

Tuesday, May 12th

2:00 | The House meets to consider:

<u>H.R. 606</u> – Don't Tax Our Fallen Public Safety Heroes Act - This bill excludes from federal income tax all benefits paid to the survivors of public safety officers who are killed in the line of duty.

<u>H.R. 723</u> – Fallen Heroes Flag Act - This bill allows U.S. flags flown over the U.S. Capitol building to be provided at no cost to the families of law enforcement and rescue squad workers killed in the line of duty.

HR 1732 - Waters of the United States Regulatory Overreach Protection Act. This bill effectively prohibits EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers (corps) from finalizing or implementing the currently proposed rule regarding the definition of the "Waters of the United States" under the Clean Water Act, instead requiring the agencies to withdraw the proposal and develop a new rule in consultation with state and local officials.

<u>H.R. 2146</u> - Defending Public Safety Employees' Retirement Act - This bill allows federal public safety employees to begin receiving payments from government retirement plans at age 50, equal to the age limit for such state and local employees, and it expands the types of retirement plans from which public safety employees at all levels of government may receive such retirement payments.

<u>S.656</u> - Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu National Blue Alert Act - Blue Alerts are intended to help speed the apprehension of violent criminals who kill or seriously injure law enforcement officers. Currently, 20 states have implemented an alert system to disseminate critical information regarding a credible threat to law enforcement officers; however, there is no system to coordinate alerts across multiple states.

Wednesday, May 13th

10:00 | House Natural Resources Committee Hearing, the Obama Administration's CEQ Recently Revised Draft Guidance for GHG Emissions and the Effects of Climate Change. Click <u>here</u> to view the webcast live.

10:00 | Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, Hearing to receive testimony on:

S.883 - The American Mineral Security Act. This bill would prevent future mineral supply shocks and boost the competitiveness of our energy, defense, electronics, medical, and manufacturing industries. Click here to view background material and here to view the live webcast.

10:15 | House Appropriations Full Committee Markup – FY 2016 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Bill. Click <u>here</u> to view the webcast live.

2:00 | House Oversight & Government Reform Hearing, the EMP Threat: The State of Preparedness Against the Threat of an Electromagnetic Pulse Event. Click here to view the webcast live.

Thursday, May 14th

9:30 | House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Federal Lands Hearing, Litigation and Increased Planning's Impact on Our Nation's Overgrown, Fire-Prone National Forests. Click here to view the webcast live.

10:00 | House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources legislative hearing:

H.R. 1644 - Supporting Transparent Regulatory and Environmental Actions in Mining Act (STREAM Act) (Mooney) - This bill amends the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to ensure transparency in the development of environmental regulations, and for other purposes.

10:30 | House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science Markup FY 2016 Commerce, Justice and Science Appropriations Bill. Click here to view the webcast live.